Message Text

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TAGS: PGEN, BTIO, WZ

SUBJECT: SENIOR GOS OFFICIALS' VIEWS ON US FOREIGN POLICY AND AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN SWAZILAND

- 1. CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S FOCUS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. DURING COURTESY CALL AUGUST 30 BY REFUGEE ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR, AMBASSADOR G. EDWARD CLARK, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS STEPHEN MATSEBULA SAID GOS WAS VERY HAPPY THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAD DEVELOPED CLEAR USG POLICY TOWARD SOUTHERN AFRICA. HE SAID GOS WISHED USG WELL IN PURSUIT OF THAT POLICY.
- 2. THANKS FOR USG ASSISTANCE. MATSEBULA EXPRESSED DEEP APPRECIATION FOR PAST USG ASSISTANCE TO SWAZILAND WHICH, HE SAID, HAD BEEN RESPONSIVE TO HOST GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES AND WHICH HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS THAT COUNTRY HAD MADE SINCE INDEPENDENCE.
- 3. AMERICAN INVESTMENT. DURING COURTESY CALL BY AMBASSADOR CLARK SAME DAY, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ZONKE KHUMALO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMPHASIZED GOS DESIRE FOR PRIVATE AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN SWAZILAND. OBSERVING THAT HE UNDERSTOOD WHY INVESTORS MIGHT BE RELUCTANT TO VENTURE OUTSIDE HIGHLY DEVELOPED AMERICAN ECONOMY, HE SAID GOS NEVERTHELESS PLACED HIGH PRIORITY ON ATTRACTING AMERICAN INVESTMENT AND WOULD WELCOME ANY ASSISTANCE AMBASSABOR CLARK MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE. AS AN EXAMPLE, KHUMALO MENTIONED

THAT JAPANESE LONG-TERM CONTRACT FOR SHIPMENTS OF SWAZI IRON ORE WOULD SOON RUN OUT BECAUSE HIGHER GRADE VEINS HAVE ALMOST BEEN EXHAUSTED. HE ASKED WHETHER USG COULD STIMQLATE INTEREST IN EXPLOITATION OF THE REMAINING LOWER QUALITY ORE, AND IN ITS PROCESSING IN SWAZILAND.

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